WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer peripheral device connected with a host computer, comprising:

connection signal transmission means for transmitting a signal representing connection/disconnection with said host computer, to said host computer; and

control means for supervising continuation of communication with said host computer, and for causing said connection signal transmission means to transmit the signal representing the disconnection to said host computer and shifting an operating state of said computer peripheral device to a low consumption current mode when the communication does not continue for a predetermined time.

2. A device according to Claim 1, further comprising connection signal reception means for receiving a signal representing connection/disconnection with a host computer, from said host computer, and

wherein said control means restores the operating state of said computer peripheral device from the low consumption current mode, according as said connection signal reception means receives the signal of controlling into the connection state from said host computer.

3. A device according to Claim 1, further comprising operation means for operating said computer peripheral device, and

wherein said control means restores the operating state of said computer peripheral device from the low consumption current mode, according to an operation of said operation means.

4. A device according to Claim 1, further comprising a setting software group for starting the communication, and

wherein, when the communication connection is started, the setting software group for starting the communication is executed after the operating state is restored from the low consumption current mode, and then said control means is controlled to detect existence of a communication partner.

5. A device according to Claim 1, further comprising a setting software group for releasing the communication, and

wherein, when the communication connection is released, the setting software group for releasing the communication is executed after said control means is controlled not to detect existence of a communication partner, and then the operating state is shifted to the low consumption current mode.

6. A device according to Claim 1, further comprising a power supply battery.

7. A control method for a computer peripheral device connected with a host computer, comprising:

a connection signal transmission step of transmitting a signal for controlling connection with the host computer, to the host computer; and

a control step of causing said connection signal transmission step to transmit the signal for controlling into a disconnection state with the host computer and shifting an operating state of the computer peripheral device to a low consumption current mode, when communication with the host computer does not continue for a predetermined time.

8. A method according to Claim 7, further comprising a connection signal reception step of receiving a signal for controlling connection with the host computer, from the host computer, and

wherein said control step restores the operating state of the computer peripheral device from the low consumption current mode, according as said connection signal reception step receives the signal of controlling into a connection state from the host computer.

9. A method according to Claim 7, wherein said control step restores the operating state of the computer peripheral device from the low consumption current mode according to an operation of the computer peripheral device.

10. A method according to Claim 7, further comprising a step of executing, when the communication connection is started, a setting software group for starting the communication after the operating state is restored from the low consumption current mode, and then performing controlling to detect existence of a communication partner.

11. A method according to Claim 7, wherein, when the communication connection is released, a setting software group for releasing the communication is executed after said control step is controlled not to detect existence of a communication partner, and then the operating state is shifted to the low consumption current mode.

12. An image pickup device connected with a host computer, comprising:

image pickup means;

connection signal transmission means for transmitting a signal representing connection/disconnection with said host computer, to said host computer; and

control means for supervising continuation of communication with said host computer, and for causing said connection signal transmission means to transmit the signal representing the disconnection to said host computer and shifting an operating state to a low consumption current mode when the communication does not continue for a predetermined time.

13. A device according to Claim 12, further comprising connection signal reception means for receiving a host computer connection signal representing connection with a host computer, from said host computer, and

wherein said control means restores the operating state from the low consumption current mode, according as said connection signal reception means receives the host computer connection signal from said host computer.

14. A device according to Claim 12, further comprising operation means for operating said image pickup device, and

wherein said control means restores the operating state from the low consumption current mode according to an operation of said operation means.

15. A device according to Claim 12, further comprising a setting software group for starting the communication, and

wherein, when the communication connection is started, the setting software group for starting the communication is executed after the operating state is restored from the low consumption current mode, and then said control means is controlled to detect existence of a communication partner.

16. A device according to Claim 12, further comprising a setting software group for releasing the communication, and

wherein, when the communication connection is released, the setting software group for releasing the communication is executed after said control means is controlled not to detect existence of a communication partner, and then the operating state is shifted to the low consumption current mode.

17. A device according to Claim 12, further comprising a power supply battery.

18. A storage medium which stores program software to achieve a control method for a computer peripheral device connected with a host computer, said method comprising:

a connection signal transmission step of transmitting a signal for controlling connection with the host computer, to the host computer; and

a control step of causing said connection signal transmission step to transmit the signal for controlling into a disconnection state with the host computer and shifting an operating state of the computer peripheral device to a low consumption current mode, when communication with the host computer does not continue for a predetermined time.

19. A medium according to Claim 18, wherein said method further comprises a connection signal reception step of receiving a signal for controlling connection with the host computer, from the host computer, and

said control step restores the operating state of the computer peripheral device from the low consumption current mode, according as said connection signal reception step receives the connection signal from the host computer.

20. A medium according to Claim 18, wherein said control step restores the operating state of the computer peripheral device from the low consumption current mode according to an operation of an operation key switch means.

21. A medium according to Claim 18, wherein said method further comprises a step of executing, when the communication connection is started, a setting software group for starting the communication after the operating state is restored from the low consumption current mode, and then controlling said control step to detect existence of a communication partner.

22. A medium according to Claim 18, wherein, when the communication connection is released, a setting software group for releasing the communication is executed after said control step is controlled not to detect existence of a communication partner, and then the operating state is shifted to the low consumption current mode.

23. A computer peripheral device connected with a host computer, comprising:

connection signal transmission means for transmitting a signal for controlling connection with said host computer, to said host computer; and

control means for shifting an operating state of said computer peripheral device to a low consumption current mode, after said connection signal transmission means transmits a signal for controlling into a disconnection state to said host computer.

24. A device according to Claim 23, wherein said connection signal transmission means transmits the signal for controlling into the disconnection state, when there is no communication with said host computer for a predetermined time.

25. A device according to Claim 23, further comprising accepting means for accepting an operation of said computer peripheral device, from said host computer.

26. A device according to Claim 23, wherein said host computer and said computer peripheral device are connected with each other by means of a USB (Universal Serial Bus).

27. A computer system comprising:

a host computer;

a peripheral device, freely connectable with said host computer, for shifting to a low power consumption mode under a predetermined condition; and

a connection medium for mutually connecting said host computer and said peripheral device with each other, and interactively transmitting between said host computer and said peripheral device a connection signal representing a connection state of said host computer and said peripheral device, wherein said peripheral device notifies said host computer of a predetermined message before shifting to the low power consumption mode, and said host computer notifies a user of a content according to the predetermined message.

28. A system according to Claim 27, wherein said peripheral device further comprises,

a battery acting as a power supply,

connection detection means for detecting the connection with said host computer in response to the connection signal sent from said host computer,

message transmission means for transmitting to said host computer a signal representing disconnection of said connection medium as said predetermined message when said predetermined condition is established, and

control means for shifting each part to the low power consumption mode after said message transmission means performs message output.

29. A system according to Claim 27, wherein said host computer comprises,

a communication module, being in a start-up state when said peripheral device is connected, for directly exchanging data with said peripheral device,

a service module, being started up if

necessary, for exchanging data with said peripheral device through said communication module,

service module detection means for detecting the start-up state of said service module, and

control means for causing said service module to notify the user of the content of said predetermined message in a case where said service module has been started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device, and for causing said communication module to notify the user of the content of said predetermined message in a case where said service module is not started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device.

30. A system according to Claim 29, wherein said service module detection means detects the start-up state of each service module by referring to start-up information of each service module stored in a resource area to which all of said service modules are accessible.

31. A system according to Claim 27, wherein said service module detection means detects the start-up state of each service module by referring to start-up information of each service module stored in a resource area to which only said communication module is

accessible by message exchange with all of said service modules.

32. A peripheral device which is freely connectable with a host computer through a connection medium interactively transmitting a connection signal representing a connection state with said host computer, and shifts to a low power consumption mode under a predetermined condition, comprising:

connection detection means for detecting the connection with said host computer in response to the connection signal sent from said host computer;

message transmission means for transmitting to said host computer a signal representing disconnection of said connection medium as a predetermined message when said predetermined condition is established; and

control means for shifting each part to the low power consumption mode after said message transmission means performs message output.

33. A computer which is freely connectable with a peripheral device through a connection medium interactively transmitting a connection signal representing a connection state with said peripheral device, comprising:

a communication module, being in a start-up state when said peripheral device is connected, for directly exchanging data with said peripheral device;

a service module, being started up if necessary, for exchanging data with said peripheral device through said communication module;

service module detection means for detecting the start-up state of said service module; and

control means for causing said service module to notify a user of the content of a predetermined message in a case where said service module has been started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device, and for causing said communication module to notify the user of the content of said predetermined message in a case where said service module is not started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device.

34. A control method for a peripheral device which is freely connectable with a host computer through a connection medium interactively transmitting a connection signal representing a connection state with said host computer, and shifts to a low power consumption mode under a predetermined condition, said method comprising:

a connection detection step of detecting the connection with said host computer in response to the connection signal sent from said host computer;

a message transmission step of transmitting to said host computer a signal representing disconnection of said connection medium as a predetermined message when said predetermined condition is established; and

a control step of shifting each part to the low power consumption mode after said message transmission step performs message output.

35. A control method for a computer which is freely connectable with a peripheral device through a connection medium interactively transmitting a connection signal representing a connection state with said peripheral device, said method comprising:

a communication step, being in a start-up state when said peripheral device is connected, of directly exchanging data with said peripheral device by a communication module;

a data exchange step, being started up if necessary, of causing a service module to exchange data with said peripheral device through said communication module;

a service module detection step of detecting the start-up state of said service module; and

a control step of causing said service module to notify a user of the content of a predetermined message in a case where said service module has been started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device, and of causing said communication module to notify the user of the content of said predetermined message in a case where said service module is not started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device.

36. A storage medium which stores program software realizes a control method for a peripheral device connected with a host computer, said method comprising:

a connection detection step of detecting the connection with said host computer in response to a connection signal sent from said host computer;

a message transmission step of transmitting to said host computer a signal representing disconnection of a connection medium as a predetermined message when a predetermined condition is established; and

a control step of shifting each part to a low power consumption mode after said message transmission step performs message output.

37. A storage medium which stores program software realizes a control method for a host computer connected with a peripheral device, said method comprising:

a communication step, being in a start-up state when said peripheral device is connected, of directly exchanging data with said peripheral device by a communication module;

a data exchange step, being started up if necessary, of causing a service module to exchange data with said peripheral device through said communication module;

a service module detection step of detecting the start-up state of said service module; and

a control step of causing said service module to notify a user of the content of a predetermined message in a case where said service module has been started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device, and of causing said communication module to notify the user of the content of said predetermined message in a case where said service module is not started up when said predetermined message is received from said peripheral device.